Appl. No. 10/764,212 Amdt. dated June 6, 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-44 are pending. Upon election of claims 24-30, claims 1-20 and 31-44 are withdrawn.

The Examiner has not included claims 21-23 in the restriction requirement. The Examiner is respectfully requested to clarify the status of claims 21-23.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the restriction requirement between groups of claims, Applicants elect claims 24-30 of Group III, drawn to a recombinant fucosyltransferase proteins, with traverse. In response to the restriction requirement between different sequences, Applicants elect SEO ID NO:16, the amino acid sequence of strain 1111 futB.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement <u>between</u> Groups I, II and III because the search and examination of the claims in the present specification can be made without a serious burden on the Examiner; therefore, pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 803, the Examiner must examine all claims on the merits, even if the claims are directed to independent and distinct inventions.

At a minimum, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the claims in Group I and Group III, related as product and methods of use. The methods of claims 31-44 expressly depend from claim 24 and the methods of claims 1-7 utilize a genus of polypeptides of equivalent scope to the polypeptides of claim 24.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments
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